

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /063 W  
-----035509 091656Z /47

O P 091547Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4898  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BERN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USCINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE  
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2022

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, GR, TU  
SUBJ: ON THE EVE OF THE GREEK-TURKISH SUMMIT

REF: ANKARA 1747 (DTG 081125Z MAR 78)

1. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS DEPARTS THIS AFTERNOON  
FOR SWITZERLAND AND HIS MEETING TOMORROW AT MONTREUX  
WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT. THE PRESS IS REPORTING  
THAT THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS WILL MEET ALONE IN THE  
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MORNING AND THEN HAVE A PLENARY SESSION IN THE  
AFTERNOON TOGETHER WITH THEIR ADVISERS. IF THESE  
FIRST ENCOUNTERS GO WELL, IT IS SAID, CARAMANLIS  
AND ECEVIT ARE LIKELY TO HAVE ANOTHER MEETING SATURDAY  
MORNING. ACCORDING TO THESE REPORTS, THE GREEK PRIME  
MINISTER WILL RETURN TO ATHENS SATURDAY EVENING.

2. REPORTING ABOUT THE SUMMIT IN THE ATHENS PRESS OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS HAS BEEN PROMINENT BUT LOW-KEY. MOST OF THE COVERAGE HAS BEEN BASED ON STORIES ORIGINATING IN ANKARA AND VERY LITTLE NEWS ABOUT THE SUMMIT HAS BEEN GENERATED HERE. ASIDE FROM THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON MARCH 6 OF THE TIME AND PLACE FOR THE SUMMIT, THE ONLY OTHER PUBLIC STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO THE GOG WAS ONE THAT SAME DAY TO THE EFFECT "GREECE GOES TO THIS MEETING WELL-DISPOSED AND WITH GOOD INTENTIONS, SO THAT PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS MAY BE FOUND TO EXISTING PROBLEMS. GREECE HAS ALWAYS BEEN OF THE OPINION THAT A SERIOUS AND HONEST DIALOGUE IS NECESSARY. WE WISH AND HOPE THAT THE OTHER SIDE ALSO DESIRES IT."

3. THE STATEMENT WAS MADE BY A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE GREEK SAIDE'S EXPECTATIONS FROM THE MEETING. IT PRETTY MUCH SUMMARIZES THE OFFICIAL GOG POSITION, I.E. THE OUTCOME OF THE SUMMIT DEPENDS ON THE TURKS. THERE IS ALSO A GENERAL BELIEF THAT THE SUMMIT WILL BE USEFUL BECAUSE IT WILL MAKE THINGS CLEARER -- EITHER THE TURKS WILL DEMONSTRATE GOOD FAITH AND SINCERITY, IN WHICH CASE A FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE WILL BE CREATED FOR SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS, OR TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE AND DISINTEREST IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONFIRMED. THE BREEKS SAY THEY HOPE FOR THE FORMER BUT, IF THE LATTER

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PROVES TO BE THE CASE, AT LEAST EVERYBODY WILL KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTINUED STALEMATE.

4. THE VIEW PREVAILS AMONG MANY GREEKS THAT ECEVIT'S PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE IS TO USE THE SUMMIT TO LIFT THE EMBARGO AND THAT IN ANY CASE HE CAN ONLY GAIN FROM IT WHEREAS CARAMANLIS CAN ONLY LOSE. THEY FEAR THAT ECEVIT WILL MAKE DEMANDS IN SUCH A WAY THAT CARAMANLIS WILL APPEAR INTRANSIGENT IF HE DOES NOT (WEAKENING HIS INTERNATIONAL POSITION AND ESPECIALLY VIS A VIS THE U.S. AND THE WEST EUROPEANS). GREEK RESERVATIONS ABOUT ECEVIT'S MOTIVES AND INTENTIONS HAVE BEEN REINFORCED BY REPORTS THAT ECEVIT SENT CARAMANLIS A LIST INDICATING TO HIM IN ADVANCE THE SUBJECTS HE INTENDS TO DISCUSS AT THE SUMMIT, NOT AS AN AGENDA PROPOSAL BUT SO THAT CARAMANLIS WILL BE PREPARED. THE SUBJECTS REPORTEDLY ARE: (A) "DISTRIBUTION" (SIC) OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE AEGEAN, (B) MILITARIZATION OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS, (C) AEGEAN AIRSPACE, (D) MINORITIES AND, LAST, (E) CYPRUS.

5. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT THE ABOVE NOTWITHSTANDING,

CARAMANLIS IS GOING TO MONTREUX WITH EVERY INTENTION  
TO MAKE THE SUMMIT A SUCCESS. AS A MINIMUM HE HOPES  
TO ESTABLISH A GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ECEVIT  
WHICH WILL MAKE SERIOUS AND PRODUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS  
POSSIBLE IN THE FUTURE.

MILLS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, SUMMIT MEETINGS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 ANKARA 1747  
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**Review Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, GR, TU  
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